

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02465 162051Z
ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5323

S E C R E T NOFORN KINGSTON 2465

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, OVIP (MRS. CARTER), JM
SUBJECT: MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO JAMAICA: BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE DAVID HILTON COORE

REFERENCE: STATE 104923

1. DAVID HILTON COORE WAS BORN ON AUGUST 22, 1925 IN ST. ANDREW, JAMAICA. HE WAS EDUCATED AT JAMAICA COLLEGE AND AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN CANADA, FROM WHICH HE WAS GRADUATED WITH A B.A. DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AND PHILOSOPHY. IN 1946, HE BEGAN STUDYING LAW AT EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, BEING CALLED TO THE BAR AT GRAY'S INN IN 1950 AND BEING ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN JAMAICA IN SEPTEMBER OF THAT YEAR.

2. HE WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN 1967 AND BECAME A CHAIRMAN OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) IN 1969. HE IS A LONGTIME FRIEND OF PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY.

3. COORE IS CONSIDERED THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL EXPERT OF THE PNP AND BECAME DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE FOLLOWING THE PNP ELECTORAL VICTORY OF 1972. HE IS MODERATE IN HIS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL VIEWS, AND HAS BEEN AMONG THOSE WHO RESISTED THE SHARP LEFTWARD MOVEMENT OF EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND THE ANTI-AMERICAN

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PAGE 02 KINGST 02465 162051Z

RHETORIC AND ACTIONS OF LAST YEAR. BY WAY OF CONTRAST, HE HAS CONSISTENTLY ARGUED THE NEED FOR IMPROVED RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE U.S., AND FOR A MORE TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO RESOLUTION OF JAMAICA'S ECONOMIC ILLS. HE MIGHT BEST BE DESCRIBED AS A "SOCIAL DEMOCRAT" RATHER THAN AS A "DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST".

4. COORE IS CONSIDERED TO BE INTELLIGENT BUT SOMEWHAT LAZY. HE IS UNASSUMING AND COURTEOUS. AFTER HE OVERCOMES HIS BASIC SHYNESS, CORRE IS AN AGREEABLE, FRANK CONVERSATIONALIST INTERESTED IN THE VIEWS OF OTHERS. HE SOMETIMES HAS TROUBLE CONTROLLING HIS TEMPER. HE SPEAKS FRENCH. HE IS AN ANGLICAN.

5. COORE'S FIRST WIFE, A TRINIDADIAN MUSICIAN, BORE HIM THREE SONS. SHE DIED IN MARCH 1975. IN OCTOBER OF THAT YEAR, COORE MARRIED THE FORMER MYRTHE SWIRE, WHO HAD BEEN A REPORTER FOR THE DAILY GLEANER NEWSPAPER. DORRANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O - MR. MCCORMACK.

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Message Attributes

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